

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01221 042158Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01221

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, PEPR, LE, IS, XF
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: VANCE/URQUHART CONVERSATION
APRIL 4

1. UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL URQUHART BRIEFED LEONARD
ON APRIL 4 ON SECRETARY VANCE'S CALL TO HIM EARLIER
IN THE MORNING. SECRETARY VANCE INDICATED THAT NIGERIANS
RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO PROPOSAL THAT NIGERIA PROVIDE
UNIFIL CONTINGENT. URQUHART RESPONDED TO SECRETARY
VANCE THAT WITH CURRENT COMMITMENTS UNIFIL HAS ARRIVED
AT ITS TARGET FIGURE OF ABOUT 4,000 TROOPS. UN IS
THUS RELUCTANT TO ENGAGE IN DISCUSSIONS OF MORE UNIFIL
TROOPS EXCEEDING THE 4,000 FIGURE WITHOUT A CLEAR GREEN
LIGHT FROM THE SECURITY COUNCIL. AT THE SAME TIME,
UNNY IS CONSCIOUS OF POTENTIAL TROUBLE MAKING BY THE
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USSR IF OPPORTUNITY TO REOPEN UNIFIL MANDATE IS
GIVEN THEM. SOVIET OBSTRUCTIONISM IN THE SC AT THIS
POINT COULD IMPAIR OR EVEN SHATTER THE CONSENSUS WHICH
AT PRESENT IS STRONGLY BEHIND UNIFIL. PLO WOULD NO
DOUBT BE PLEASED. URQUHART CONFIRMED TO LEONARD UN
VIEW THAT UNIFIL WILL HAVE TO EXCEED THE 4,000 LEVEL.
(NOTE: USUN BELIEVES WE CAN BE HELPFUL IN GAINING

ACCEPTANCE OF AN INCREASED UNIFIL THRU PRIVATE
CONSULTATIONS WITH KUWAITI PERM REP, ARAB GROUP
CHAIRMAN MESTIRI (TUNISIA), EGYPTIANS AND OTHERS. WE
EXPECT TUENI WILL TAKE LEAD NOTING TO ARABS THAT
GOL AGREES WITH AN AUGMENTED FORCE AND IS PROCEEDING ON
UNDERSTANDING THAT AN INCREASED AND EFFECTIVE UNIFIL
WILL HELP IN BRINGING ABOUT A MORE PROMPT IDF
WITHDRAWAL.)

2. WHEN URQUHART RAISED THE ISSUE OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL,
VANCE INDICATED THAT U.S. TAKES SERIOUSLY IDF APPARENT
RENEGING ON EARLIER UNDERSTANDING (JERUSALEM 975).
URQUHART SAID UN WILL OF COURSE PRESS ISRAEL TO FOLLOW
THROUGH WITH ITS PLANS, WHICH WERE IN ANY CASE ONLY
MINIMALLY SATISFACTORY. HE ADDED TO LEONARD THAT
HE PLANNED TO ADVISE WALDHEIM WHEN HE MEETS WITH
HIM APRIL 5 IN LONDON TO SEND MESSAGE TO PM BEGIN
EXPLAINING IDF PULLBACK MUST BE MEANINGFUL ON THE
GROUND AND PUBLICLY CONFIRMED OR THE WHOLE SCENARIO
COULD BE ENDANGERED. LEONARD

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